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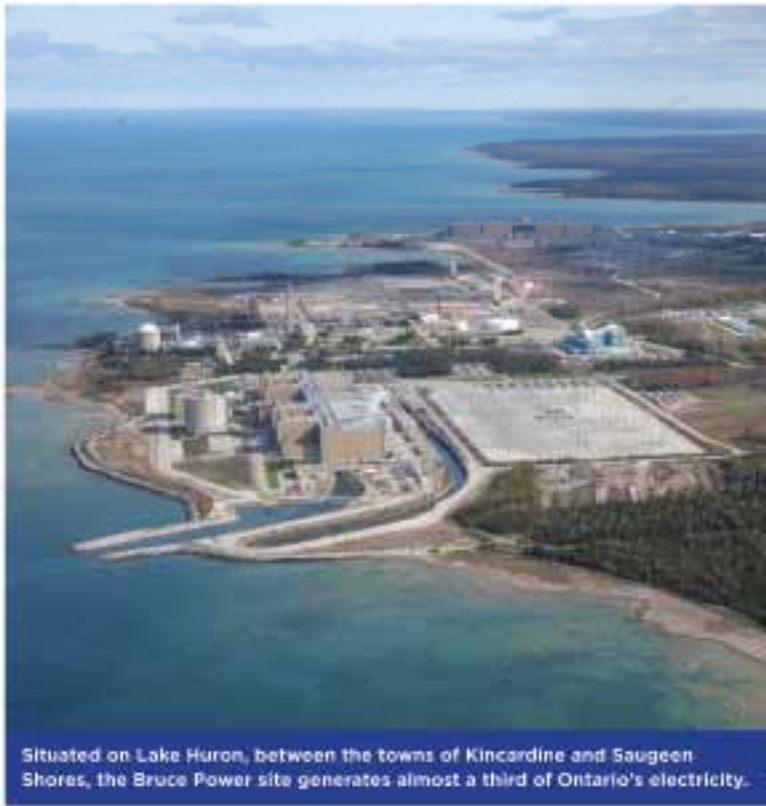
Monday, December 10, 2012

News
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What's down?

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Output from coal generation is down by 90%.

SMOG DAYS



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Rocket still has fighting chance

Bus battle. Students looking for public support to get bus service licensed

MARK SPOWART
london@metronews.ca

Students and Londoners may once again become rocketeers in early 2013.

After being forced to cease operations and give refunds to more than 400 customers last week, the London Rocket is looking to make a comeback.

The Queen's University students who founded the bus service between London and the GTA are planning to pursue an operating licence from the Ontario Highway Transport Board.

For that to happen, people need to sign an online petition at londonrocket.ca, service co-founder Darren Cole says.

"One of the criteria (of the OHTB) is to show that there is a public need," Cole told Metro. "We know that there is a need, and now we need (customers) to sign the petition to show that they support us."

All in favour

- As of Sunday afternoon, nearly 700 of the 2,000 signatures needed for the London Rocket's petition had been received.

After Cole and business partner Bill Mei went public with their plans to launch the Rocket this month, Greyhound sent them a letter, saying it is the only company licensed to provide scheduled public transit between London and Toronto, and it would seek a cease-and-desist order from the OHTB if the Rocket wasn't cancelled.

London lawyer Lakin Afoladi and Toronto lawyer John Nunziata, a former MP, are representing the students pro bono. "We didn't have money for legal services, and they both decided to jump on," Cole said.

If a licence is granted, it will be an operating cost not originally factored into the service. "We haven't confirmed it yet, but most licences listed are between \$100 and \$500, so it shouldn't be a problem to cover it," Cole said.

WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



SUNDAY KNIGHTS FEVER

London Knights goalie Kevin Bailie makes a third-period save as teammate Brett Welychka ties up Mississauga's Josh Burnside during Sunday's game at Budweiser Gardens. For game coverage, turn to Page 4. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

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Viktor Arkhyppin, left, and other members of Spare Change for Change prepare to serve dessert while volunteering recently at the St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre (707 Dundas St.). The Western University organization is challenging more students to volunteer time at the soup kitchen. CONTRIBUTED

Students spare time for Spare Change

Western U. Campus organization challenges more members to help Londoners who are less fortunate

MARK SPOWART
london@metronews.ca

Ignore the name. Spare Change for Change really has nothing to do with money.

Founded by Courtney Betty, a second-year student at Western University, the organization asks students to spare some time and help Londoners who are less fortunate.

Betty, along with fellow second-year Western student Viktor Arkhyppin, are challen-

Lending a helping 'like'

- For every new 'like' on HousingU's Facebook page through the end of January, HousingU will donate \$2 to the St. Joseph's Hospitality

Centre (707 Dundas St.).

- The centre, run by the Sisters of St. Joseph, serves between 200 and 300 meals daily.

ging more members of the university's clubs to get involved with the St. Joseph's Hospitality Centre.

"My goal is for every club to have one event (volunteer day) at the soup kitchen," Betty said. With upward of 1,000 clubs at Western, the impact could be huge, Betty noted.

The biggest challenge Betty and Arkhyppin have faced is convincing people that the centre isn't just an "assembly line"

where you pour soup for two hours.

There's much more to the experience than that, they said. Volunteering at the centre means interacting directly with people benefiting from the extra help.

"You are not just donating something where you don't know what happens afterwards," Arkhyppin said.

Since it started, Spare Change for Change's roster

has grown to about 30 regular members. Close to an additional 60 students have volunteered at the soup kitchen so far this school year.

"We have had so many members who want to come and volunteer that I have had to tell them not to come so new volunteers can come out and experience it for themselves," Betty said.

Even with the success, Western's student council refused to grant the group club status on campus this year because they would be competing with the university's food bank, Betty said.

Spare Change plans to re-apply for club status in January.

"I would really like to end my time at Western (knowing) people are still volunteering at the soup kitchen," Betty said.

Contract legislation

Student-teacher walkouts planned to start Monday

Students at several London high schools are expected to walk out of classes Monday to show support for teachers fighting provincial contract legislation.

Classes at Sir Frederick Banting Secondary School are among those expected to be interrupted.

"As students, we do not stand for this violation of our Charter of Rights and Freedoms and want to see an end to this situation," Banting student Dallas Windbank wrote in an email to Metro.

"We feel it is not appropriate for the government to infringe upon a unions' right to collectively bargain, and by the government posing this Bill (115), it defeats what we stand for as a democratic society."

The walkouts come as high school teachers across the province start their work-to-rule protests.

Elementary-school teachers, meanwhile, will start one-day rotating strikes on Monday. The Avon Maitland and Ontario North East school boards will be hit first.

Teachers in the Niagara region and those in northwestern Ontario's Keewatin-Patricia District School Board will strike Tuesday.

The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board will be hit Wednesday.

It's unknown when Thames Valley teachers will have their protest.

Parents will be given 72-hours notice, the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario has said.

METRO/WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

LTC crash. Hurt driver faces number of charges

A 25-year-old London man is facing multiple criminal charges for a Nov. 18 crash with a bus.

Police said Philip Haynes was driving east on Oxford Street at a high rate of speed when he collided with the London Transit Commission vehicle. The westbound bus was attempting to turn onto Highbury Avenue when the crash happened.

Haynes was taken to hospital with what police called life-threatening injuries at the time. The bus driver was taken to hospital with minor injuries.

No passengers were in-

The charges

Philip Haynes, 25, of London is charged with:

- Dangerous operation of a motor vehicle.
- Impaired operation of a motor vehicle.
- Operating a motor vehicle with more than 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood.

involved. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Gunshot wounds

Burlington Street deaths a murder-suicide: Police

The Friday deaths of a man and woman have been deemed a murder-suicide.

Police arrived at 223 Burlington St. at about 3 p.m. after someone dialed 911. Edward and Magda Amler, both 88, were found in their house with gunshot wounds. They were pronounced dead at hospital, police said.

A firearm was found inside the home. METRO

Business. London entrepreneur wins award

London's Pat Mussieux has been named Canada's Female Entrepreneur of the Year during the ninth annual Stevie Awards for Women in Business.

Mussieux is a business coach for women entrepreneurs, a public speaker and author of *Who Am I Now?* She's been nominated for numerous honours including the 2012 London Chamber of Commerce Innovation Award and the *Chatelaine* magazine's Woman of the Year 2011. More than 1,200 nominations were received from 17 nations and territories for this year's Stevie Awards. Cat-



Pat Mussieux CONTRIBUTED

egories included Mentor of the Year, Executive of the Year and Women Helping Women.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Lively retelling of Christmas classic to benefit charity

Scrooge, Tiny Tim and more. Event to feature traditional Dickens story and holiday tunes from local musicians

ANDREW
SERCOMBE

london@metronews.ca

Hundreds of people will join forces this week for a reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

The event is a fundraiser for the Unity Project. Sponsors make donations to the non-profit for a chance to participate in the reading.

"The script is the same reading Charles Dickens read himself to audiences when he toured promoting the book," said the Unity Project's Silvia Langer. "This would take seven hours though to read it in its entirety, so we have made it shorter."



Orchestra London, the London Singers and the H.B. Beal Singers perform during the 2011 reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Last year's event at Centennial Hall raised almost \$40,000 for the Unity Project. PHOTO COURTESY OF ELLEN FOSTER

Orchestra London, the London Singers and the H.B. Beal Singers will also perform,

bringing a touch of music to the traditional holiday tale. The event, marking its fifth

year in London, was first inspired by CBC radio.

"For 20 years, CBC travelled

across Canada reciting the story to different communities," Langer said. "In our fifth

If you go

A Christmas Carol:

- **When:** 7 p.m. Wednesday
- **Where:** Centennial Hall (550 Wellington St.)
- **Cost:** A donation to the Unity Project

year of the performance, we are continuing that tradition."

Cohen Highley law firm has sponsored a bus that will shuttle people who are blind and visually impaired to and from the event.

Admission is by donation at the door with proceeds going to the Unity Project.

The Unity Project provides emergency shelter and transitional housing at 717 Dundas St. to men and women 18 and older.



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London Knights handily beat Mississauga Steelheads

Future games. They face Oshawa at home on Friday before travelling to face Guelph on Saturday

No shootout was needed this time as the Knights defeated the Mississauga Steelheads 5-2 in front of 8,939 fans Sunday at Budweiser Gardens.

Kyle Platzer opened the scoring five minutes into the first period, netting his third goal of the year.

From that point on the Knights never looked back, controlling the play despite numerous trips to the penalty box. They gave up a power-play goal late in the first.

The second period started much like the first as Max Domi was parked at the side of the Mississauga goal and scored his 18th of the season. Bo Horvat scored the game winner on a second-period power play with assists from Seth Griffith and Domi.

It took a 19-round shootout for the Knights to defeat the Steelheads on Dec. 2 in

Winning streak

- Record tied. The Knights' Sunday victory extends their winning streak to 18, tying a club record set in the 2004-05 season when they went on to win Memorial Cup.

Mississauga.

Sunday's victory ties the team record of 18 consecutive wins. Horvat reflected on that after the game.

"I think it was in the back of our minds for sure, but I don't think we tried to think about it too much, it feels good after the game of course, but before the game we were all focused and were trying to treat it as just another game, not get too high or too low for sure," he said.

The Knights have three more games before Christmas.

They face Oshawa at home on Friday before travelling to face Guelph on Saturday. They're back at Budweiser Gardens on Sunday for a match against Kingston.

MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO



The London Knights' Ryan Rupert comes close to scoring as Mississauga goalie Spencer Martin closes the door during Sunday's game at Budweiser Gardens. The Knights won their 18th consecutive game, defeating the Steelheads 5-2. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

London-native Nesbitt adds to solid season



Canadian speedskater Christine Nesbitt is pictured during a recent World Cup event. The London native came out of Sunday's competition in Japan with another gold medal. ALEXEI FILIPPOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Christine Nesbitt won the women's 1,000-metre race Sunday at a speedskating World Cup event in Nagano, Japan.

The London native won the race with a time of one minute 15.132 seconds, finishing 0.13 seconds ahead of the United States' Heather Richardson. Lotte van Beek of the Netherlands was third in 1:15.87.

"I was in the last pair with Heather Richardson, who won the previous two 1,000s of the season. So I knew that she was going to be fast and she's been skating well," Nesbitt said. "But I felt this week that things have

been coming together more and more in my own skating. So I was kind of excited.

"(Richardson) was pretty far ahead with one lap to go, but I dug really deep in the last back-straightaway and I didn't let her out of my sight."

The win brings Nesbitt's medal count on the season to six. She took home gold in the 1,500-metre long-track on Dec. 2 and garnered first place in the team pursuit later that day.

Meanwhile, Japan's Keiichiro Nagashima won the men's 500-metre race to claim his first World Cup vic-

Medal count

Christine Nesbitt's medal count this season:

- Gold: 4
- Silver: 1
- Bronze: 1

tory of the season.

Nagashima, the Vancouver Olympics silver medallist, beat Calgary's Gilmore Junio by just two hundredths of a second,

clocking 35.14 seconds for his 11th career victory.

Jan Smeeckens of the Netherlands was third in 35.18.

South Korea's Lee Sang-hwa clocked 37.60 to win the women's 500 for her fourth straight World Cup win. Germany's Jenny Wolf was second in 37.91 while Japan's Nao Kodaira was third in 38.09.

Hein Otterspeer of the Netherlands won the men's 1,000 in 1:09.20, 0.44 seconds ahead of Denny Morrison of Fort St. John, B.C. Kjeld Nuis, also of the Netherlands, was third in 1:09.72. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

\$150,000 in damage

Crews blame fire on careless cooking

Firefighters are blaming a Moir Street blaze on careless cooking.

Crews were to a house between Riverside Drive and Blackfriars Street on Friday evening after neighbours heard smoke alarms.

No one was injured. The damage estimate is at least \$150,000.

AM980/AM980.CA

Funding

Grants offered for heritage programs

The Community Heritage Investment Program is accepting funding applications from non-profit organizations. Applications will be accepted through Feb. 11.

For details, click on "About us" at londonheritage.ca. METRO

Awarded

Rogers Television gets provincial kudos

Rogers TV Cable 13 has received an Employer Champion Award from Provincial Partnership Council for mentoring high school students.

Rogers was one of four award recipients in Ontario.

METRO

StarTech.com

Local company named in 'best biz' list

London's StarTech.com has been named one of the best 50 small and medium employers in Canada by Profit magazine.

It's the third time StarTech.com has made its way onto the list.

METRO

Animal hospital

PAWS looking for support through votes

Leaders of an effort to open a non-profit animal hospital in London are asking for a few extra votes in an online bid for an Aviva Community Fund grant.

Search for PAWS at avivacommunityfund.org. METRO

Music and art festival

Home County leader resigns as artistic director

Catherine McInnes has resigned effective Dec. 31 as artistic director of London's Home County Music and Art Festival.

McInnes has been with the festival for seven years and plans to complete programming for next summer. METRO

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Pipeline. Docs show review was influenced by oil industry: Greenpeace

A review of pipeline safety commissioned by the Alberta government after a series of high-profile accidents was heavily influenced by industry and designed more to quiet public concern than improve the system, say Greenpeace campaigners.

They say documents obtained under Freedom of Information legislation suggest the terms of the review were OK'd in advance by pipeline company officials.

"There's a difference between talking to industry and asking for their approval," said Greenpeace energy spokesman Keith Stewart. "It looks like industry got to

Oil spills

The Alberta government asked for the technical safety review last summer following three pipeline-related spills.

- **Red Deer River.** In one of those spills, a Plains Midstream Canada pipeline leaked about 475,000 litres of oil into the Red Deer River, a major drinking water source for central Alberta.

write the terms for this review." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Recurring illness

Chavez in Cuba for cancer treatment

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, 58, was heading back to Cuba on Sunday for more cancer surgery after announcing that the illness returned despite two previous operations: chemother-



Hugo Chavez THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

apy and radiation treatment. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Mandela in hospital as his party faces leadership crisis



Former South African President Nelson Mandela leaves a chapel after attending the funeral of his great-granddaughter Zenani Mandela in Johannesburg. South African President Jacob Zuma says that Mandela has been admitted to hospital in Pretoria to undergo tests. SIPHIWE SIBEKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Fighting spirit.

Former South African president, 94, has battled tuberculosis, prostate cancer

Inside a Catholic church that once served as a major rallying point for anti-apartheid activists, the image of a grey-suited Nelson Mandela appears in a stained-glass window that also features angels and the cross.

Worshippers here prayed Sunday for the hospitalized 94-year-old former president, who remains almost a secular saint and a father figure to many in South Africa, a nation

Leading by example

"When you have someone that's willing to lead by example like he did, it makes things easier for people to follow."

Church-goer Thabile Manana

of 50 million people that has Africa's top economy.

Mandela's admission to the hospital this weekend for unspecified medical tests sparked screaming newspaper headlines and ripples of fear in the public that the frail leader is fading further away.

And as his African National Congress political party stands ready to pick its leader, who likely will be the nation's next president, some believe governing party politicians have abandoned Mandela's integrity and magnanimity in a seemingly unending string of corruption scandals. That leaves many wondering who can lead the country the way the ailing Mandela once did.

On Saturday, the office of President Jacob Zuma announced Mandela had been admitted to a Pretoria hospital for medical tests and care that was "consistent for his age." Zuma visited Mandela on Sunday morning at the hospital and found the former leader to be "comfortable and in good care," presidential spokesman Mac Maharaj said in a statement. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Public servants. Tony Clement doesn't want Christmas to be 'Grinch'd'

Treasury Board president Tony Clement says public servants want to be in the Christmas or Hanukkah spirit this time of year and should not feel they're offending anyone by decorating their offices with a little holiday cheer.

But for the 8,000 federal workers left on the chopping block, there might not be a reason to grab the tinsel.

Clement said in an interview with Metro Sunday that 11,000 positions have been cut from the budget as the government approaches its target of 19,000. Most of them were eliminated through attrition, he said.

Following a statement he issued Sunday reminding employees there are no guidelines against decorating their

offices for the holidays, Clement told Metro he disagreed with the suggestion that some employees wouldn't be in the festive mood because of the budget cuts.

"The federal government (has) an excellent workplace for our employees and we believe in our employees, but we also are accountable to the taxpayer," said Clement. "I think everybody understands that."

Clement, sticking firmly on message, said people want to exercise their faith and political correctness should not trump holiday spirit.

"Our government will not allow the Christmas spirit to be Grinch'd," he said in the statement.

JOE LOFARO/METRO IN OTTAWA



Treasury Board President Tony Clement appears — in a festive tie — in the House of Commons in Ottawa last week. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Curious George



A monkey loose in IKEA in Toronto on Sunday. TWITTER

Monkey wearing diaper and coat found at IKEA

A North York IKEA store attracted an unorthodox customer Sunday afternoon.

Shoppers encountered a tiny monkey adorned in a shearling coat and diapers running around the store's upper parking garage around 2 p.m.

"It was just running around screaming," said shopper Bronwyn Page.

Security guards at IKEA eventually cornered the animal in the garage elevator and called police. Animal Services soon arrived at the store to pick up the tiny shopper.

The animal's owner contacted police later in the day and was reunited with their pet, police said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The power of Christmas

People gather to look at Christmas lights that adorn a house in Melksham, England, on Saturday. The lights have returned to the town after a two-year absence and have raised thousands of pounds for charity. The display, which is worth about \$50,000, is thought to involve more than 100,000 bulbs. It takes a team of electricians five weeks to complete, and needs an up-rated electricity supply installed to cope with the additional power requirements. Inset, people react to a flurry of flakes generated by a snow machine outside the display. **MATT CARDY/GETTY IMAGES**

War tribunal accuses Economist of hacking

Bangladesh. Inquiry asks news magazine to explain how it got hold of judge's emails and Skype discussions

A Bangladesh war crimes tribunal has accused the British magazine *The Economist* of hacking the computer of its presiding judge to record conversations and read emails he exchanged with a lawyer.

The magazine did not directly address the charges, but said it was in possession of conversations and documents that raised serious questions about

the workings of the tribunal.

The tribunal is trying 10 opposition politicians on charges of arson, rape and other atrocities committed during the country's 1971 war of independence from Pakistan.

Bangladesh says that during the war, Pakistani troops, aided by their local collaborators, killed three million people and raped about 200,000 women.

In an order passed last week, the tribunal accused *The Economist* of computer hacking and asked it to explain how it got emails and heard Skype conversations between Presiding Judge Mohammed Nizamul Huq and Ahmed Ziauddin, a lawyer of Bangladeshi origin living in Brussels, Belgium.



In an article published Saturday, *The Economist* said it has heard 17 hours of recorded telephone conversations and seen

over 230 emails between Huq and Ziauddin. "These emails, if genuine, would indeed raise questions about the working of the court and we are bound to investigate them as fully as we can," the article said.

The *Economist* rejected the tribunal's demand that the emails and recorded conversations be returned to it without being published.

"This material is confidential and we are bound by law and the British press's Code of Conduct not to reveal such information except in matters of the most serious public interest. We did not solicit the material, nor pay for it, nor commit ourselves to publish it," it said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Wireless code of conduct. CRTC gets an earful about 36-month cell contracts

Three-year contracts from cellphone companies should be banned, Canada's telecom regulator has been told in submissions to an online consultation.

Hundreds of people submitted their opinions to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission about a proposed code of conduct for the country's wireless industry.

The overwhelming majority who wrote to the CRTC over the two-week online consultation period passionately voiced concerns about being "held hostage" by 36-month contracts.

"Get rid of the 36 months contract!!!" said one person on the CRTC's online forum. "It first started with 12 months, then 24 months, now the stan-

Quoted

"CRTC, please get rid of the 3 year contract, Canada will love you for this."

A consumer opinion submitted to a CRTC online consultation forum, which was part of the federal regulator's efforts to develop a code of conduct for the wireless industry.

dard is 36 months, which is ridiculous!"

Those submitting opinions and suggestions to the forum were not required to post their names.

The first round of consultations, which closed this week, also heard several complaints about a lack of competition in the industry. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Washington, D.C.

Obama, Boehner hold discussions about 'fiscal cliff'

U.S. President Barack Obama and Republican House Speaker John Boehner met Sunday at the White House to discuss the ongoing negotiations to avert the impending "fiscal cliff," as a growing number of Republicans in Congress appear to be moving toward acceptance of Obama's demand that tax rates go up on the wealthy.

It was the first meeting between just the two leaders since Nov. 6. Details of their conversation will not be released, their spokesmen said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Holiday season

Rushing to mail your presents? So is everyone else

If you were thinking this is the week to finally mail out your Christmas cards or make a gift purchase online then you're not alone.

Canada Post expects Thursday will be its busiest day of the year. And FedEx is targeting Monday globally as its highest-volume day of 2012. Canada Post estimates the holiday rush will see it deliver about one billion cards, letters and packages. About nine million kilograms of that mail will come from outside the country. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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SLIPPING ON A SANTA SUIT



**URBAN
COMPASS**
Todd Devlin
london@metronews.ca

It's an age-old dilemma faced by shopping mall Santas everywhere: How to answer when a child asks: "Are you the real Santa Claus?"

The question comes up often, and it's handled differently depending on the Santa. Some insist they are the real one, while others explain they are merely helpers for Santa, who is very busy during the Christmas season.

Jimmy Higgins, who has 14 years of experience under his Santa belt, always leaves the answer up to the child.

"I try to make them think for themselves," said Higgins, who is playing Santa at London's Masonville Place for the third consecutive year. "I do say that if I was, I couldn't tell them anyway because I'm not allowed, but I just say, 'What do you think?'"

For younger children, the exchange is often followed by a tug of Higgins' white beard and an ecstatic, "You ARE him," he said.

"I don't argue with them," Higgins said with a chuckle. "It's whatever they think."

Those who work with Higgins say he's as genuine as his beard. There's no question that playing the role of Santa Claus is more a calling than a job for the 60-year-old retired courier.

It's a calling that developed at a young age.

"When I was in Grade 7, I played Santa Claus for a Grade 1 (class)," Higgins said, remembering that he chose a red ski jacket when he was nine years old specifically for its Santa-like qualities. "But I got interested in it because I love kids. I love bringing joy to kids."

Higgins estimates he's visited with close to a million children at malls in London, Brampton and Toronto. And he's done it with the utmost authenticity.

"I wanted to be like Santa and perform like I think Santa would," he said. "I had 48 years of watching Santa on television and stuff like that, so I picked up his little habits here and there."

His dedication to the job is obvious.

This year, he'll work right up to Christmas Eve, putting in six days a week for six weeks at Masonville Place, where he arrives in street clothes and transforms into Jolly Old St. Nick in the Santa Room.

"I have to be careful that nobody sees me," he said. "But I'm pretty well incognito."

He has plenty of memories from his time spent in a Santa costume, but one in particular stands out.

It was an interaction with a girl who was obviously terrified about the experience.

"She was shaking like a leaf," Higgins recalled. "I explained that she didn't have to sit with Santa, she could stand beside him or in front of him. I was holding her hand, and by the time I finished speaking with her she was on my knee and totally relaxed."

Those are the moments that keep Higgins coming back year after year.

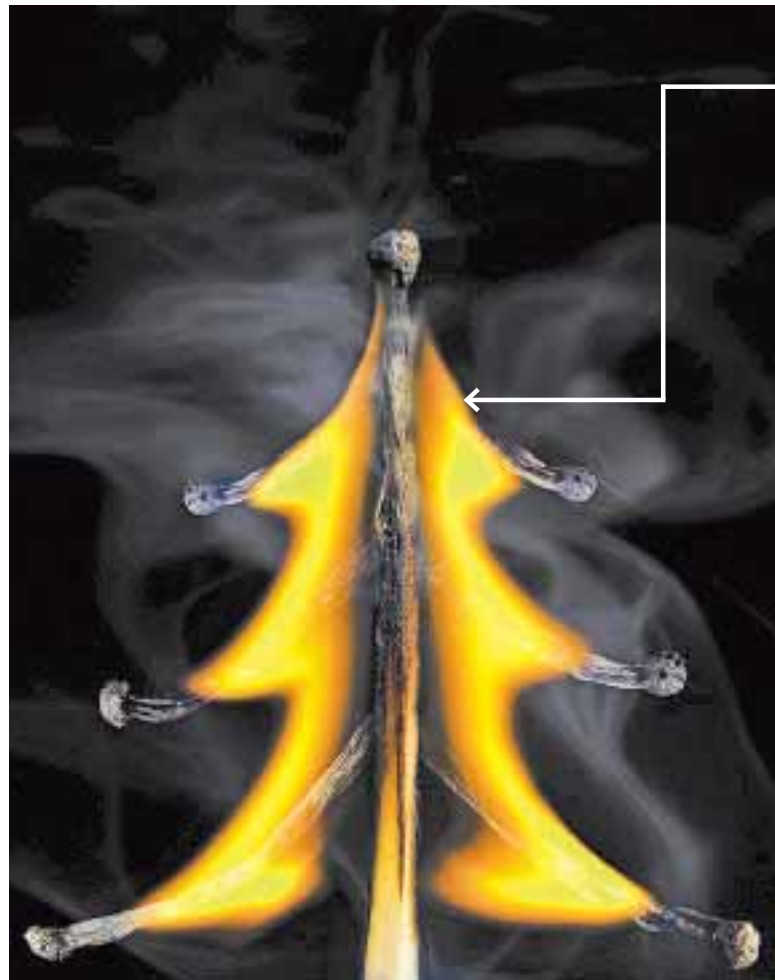
"The thing I enjoy most is putting a smile on a kid's face," he said. "Even if it was only one it would be worth it. That's my main goal. Let them enjoy the moment."

Follow Todd Devlin on
Twitter @UrbanCompassLdn



Jimmy Higgins on the Santa set at Masonville Place. CONTRIBUTED

The Christmas tree is on fire!



STANISLAV ARISTOV/REX FEATURES

Match art photography

This art is literally smoking hot

Some bright spark has set the art world alight and created this festive image using spent matches and fire.

Stanislav Aristov, 30, makes miniature sculptures like this one by bending the matches into the desired shape while they are burning and then, using a macro lens and studio flash, he takes the photograph.

METRO

Artist's viewpoint



"There is burnt for the past, the smoke of

memories left and the untouched part of the match the future. The fire is the life."

Stanislav Aristov, 30, IT specialist and part-time artist from Ekaterinburg, Russia

Accidental beginnings

How he had his eureka moment

Like many ingenious creations, Aristov's art came about by accident. Unable to come up with an idea, Aristov struck a match before noticing the incredible patterns formed in the carbon of the used wood — and so match art was born.

"It was while I was watching the match trying to think of something that I began to think of how it represents life," Aristov said.

METRO

Characteristics

Art produces 'very freakish forms'

For Aristov, the key characteristic of his match art is its unexpected shapes and composition, despite its use of a rather ordinary

object.

"Matches, of course, are quite a usual object, but it turned out (they) can be presented in very unusual ways," the artist said.

"Fire, as well as smoke, sometimes swirls in very freakish forms, which bring very interesting associations." METRO

Match art in numbers

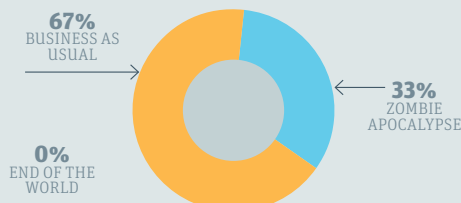
200

is the amount of camera shots Aristov sometimes requires in order to capture the perfect match art composition. Aristov's amazing images include a smoky butterfly, a dangling spider, crawling lizard and a burning heart.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca
and take the quick poll

What's your prediction for Dec. 21, 2012?



Twitter

@Tuppersolutions: I'm dreaming of a white Christmas. But this part of Ontario seems to be pretty green this year. Still no snow. #LDNont

@hillarym3: wasn't this the time of year in 2010 when exams were cancelled at western because of all the snow? #UWO #WeWantSnow

@danielatablas: Wake up, go on the computer,

take nap, wake up, go on the computer, take a nap #fanshawe

@cExperiments: My house smells like Starbucks at the moment...espresso machine = best purchase ever! #ldnont

@cableknitdragon: You can't call it a day in #ldnont unless you've been stopped by at least 1 train passing through.

Fewer members presents fewer problems for rising Japandroids

Celebration Rock.

Electronic duo trying to adapt to playing bigger venues after successful new album

LUKE
O'NEIL

Metro World News in Boston

There's no question that electronic dance music has been the primary driving force in music for the past few years.

We would never be so misguided to set up some sort of oppositional binary between DJ culture and traditional rock music (because obviously both can exist peacefully). But if we had to, there's no question which band would go as the first pick in our hypothetical fantasy music draft: Japandroids.

The sound on their acclaimed second record, *Celebration Rock*, is the Platonic ideal of shouted basement-show punk vehemence, best exemplified by song-of-the-year candidate, *The House That Heaven Built*.

The Vancouver band's success has found them graduating from the smaller clubs from which their stage-dives and bro-hugs aesthetic was born into much larger rooms, on an



Japandroids Dave Prowse and Brian King. HANDOUT

exhaustive tour that will bring them for the first time to Australia, Korea and, of course, Japan.

"I feel like we live on the road," drummer and vocalist Dave Prowse says from Tampa, Fla.

"We just tend to tour pretty hard, and not really take a lot of breaks. ... I think because we were kind of a struggling local band for two years, as soon as we got the opportunity to tour and see a lot of places, we had a hard time saying no

to anything."

In the early days, working as a duo made that sort of schedule a lot more feasible, he says.

"When we first started, it was us in a Ford explorer. It was a lot easier to make that work with two people. For a variety of reasons, being a two-piece makes logistics easier. Obviously the money, and the fact that there's only one other person you have to come to an agreement with. In a six-piece, it's probably harder

to convince six people to go on (the) road for two years."

That doesn't mean that he and guitarist Brian King don't still have their share of disagreements, but having known each other for so long, Prowse says, they're on the same page about most things.

"The thing about being in a two-piece, you can't put anything to a vote, so if you disagree about something, you just have to figure it out. We have pretty similar ideas about lots of

kind of trickier situations that bands have to make, with respect to things like licensing music for advertisements or something like that, which is a big thing for a lot of bands. But neither of us are interested in doing that, so it's easy to say no to that. ... Obviously, there are certain moments where we disagree, (but it's) usually about small stuff rather than big stuff, which is probably the reason we're still a band after seven years."

Titus Andronicus back Local Business

Latest record. With a lean, mean new album, Jersey punk band are bringing listeners up to speed while fighting negativity

PAT
HEALY

Metro World News in Boston

With the first words that Patrick Stickles sings on *Local Business*, the recently released third album by Titus Andronicus, it would seem that the album would be over before it's even started.

"OK, I think by now we've established everything is inherently worthless," sings

Stickles on opening track, *Ecce Homo*, before concluding, "there's nothing in the universe with any kind of oblique purpose."

But the singer says this opening salvo is not as defeatist as it reads on paper, and that it's more about updating listeners just joining the program.

"I thought it would be a good way to start our discussion, and it was kind of a point that we belabored quite a lot in the first two records," says Stickles, "so you just get everybody up to speed and go on from there."

And where exactly can it go from there?

"Hopefully by the end, the hopeful element of it is a little more explicit," says Stickles, "in that in the void of meaning we are empow-

Hair today, gone tomorrow

• **Beard issue.** When Titus began rising to popularity, one of the visual elements that stood out most was Patrick Stickles' big, bushy beard. He shaved it after the tour for *The Monitor*, and he says he doesn't miss it. "I just was sick of it. I wanted to move on, live a life without it," he says. "Now I talk about it more, go figure."



Titus Andronicus' new album is called *Local Business*. PHOTO: KYLE DEAN REINFORD

ered to create meaning."

It seems that Titus have created a lot of meaning with *Local Business*. The production is leaner and meaner and the lyrical content is more introspective than their last effort. This

second feat was almost inevitable though, as Titus' 2010 album, *The Monitor*, was mostly about the Civil War. *Local Business* is also the band's first album where the lineup that recorded the songs is the same lineup that has been touring to support it. For the most part, Titus has been made

up of Stickles, drummer Eric Harm and a revolving door of other players. Does Stickles feel like this lineup will be the one that's finally in it for the long haul?

"I felt that about all the bands, but it hasn't panned out like that," he says, almost cautiously. "But so far this one is going good."

2 SCENE



Taylor Swift

Life in the Swift lane: Songstress opens up about her love life

Taylor Swift's romantic history is well-documented, but the singer admits she's no pro on the subject. Swift's blind spot is "how to make them last," she admits to the British edition of Cosmopolitan magazine. "I've never had a really long relationship, so I have no idea what that's like," she says. "Wish me luck in the future!" Or the

Quoted

"I've never had a really long relationship, so I have no idea what that's like."

Taylor Swift

present, as Swift appears to be getting serious with One Direction member Harry Styles.



Robin Williams

Jumanji on the loose again

Children of the '90s, prepare to get more excited than is acceptable while reading a gossip page: Jumanji — the Robin Williams classic in which a jungle board game comes to life — is getting a reboot. Zach Helm has signed on to write the re-

make, which will get "an update for the present," according to the Hollywood Reporter. We fear this means the kids get iPhones and anxiety complexes. But for now, let's assume it means wild corgis in designer safari hats.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Lindsay Lohan in the holiday spirit — and wanted too!



THE WORD
Monica Weymouth
scene@metronews.ca

Lindsay Lohan, bless her crazy little heart, is getting into the holiday spirit and playing Gossip Santa. Let's review her weekend, shall we?

On Friday, Linds was all smiles in the front row at New York City's Jingle Ball concert during The Wanted's performance. She's rumoured to be dating a member of the boy band, Max George, who more or less confirmed some aspect of some relationship: "We can stay out of trouble and keep her out of trouble," he tells PerezHilton.com. "She can party just as hard as us. She's a great girl."

All "great girl" comments aside, we've endorsed fibre breakfast bars more enthusiastically than that. And it seems like Lohan might be less happy than she's letting on for the cameras — from what Metro heard at the Jingle Ball, she was allegedly seen crying in a bathroom backstage. (Then again, who doesn't have a good cry at their boyfriend's holiday party?)

Not to pile it on, but yesterday TMZ reported that Lohan's finances are in such bad shape that she's struggling to pay the rent on her \$8,000-per-month Beverly Hills mansion. Ever since the IRS seized her bank accounts, she's reportedly been hitting up friends for money.

Santa Lohan, at the risk of being greedy, we'd like to submit our Christmas list: One Aniston pregnancy announcement, one Jolie spite pregnancy announcement, two John Stamos rom coms and the Easy-Bake Ultimate Oven.



Megan Fox and Brian Austin Green ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Fox and Austin Green adapt to growing family

Megan Fox and husband Brian Austin Green are thrilled about the arrival of their two-month-old son, Noah, but not everyone in the household is so enthusiastic. "Kash is a little indifferent," Fox tells

the Daily Mirror about her 10-year-old stepson, Kassius. "He's not experiencing any sort of jealousy or competitiveness, but he's not excited because he just wants to go play video games."



Catherine Zeta-Jones

Zeta-Jones doesn't want to talk about bipolar

Catherine Zeta-Jones is starting to regret opening up about her 2011 hospitalization for bipolar disorder. "You know what? I'm sick of talking about it because I never wanted to be the poster child for this," she says in an interview with Good Morning America. "I never wanted this to

come out publicly. It came out, and I dealt with it in the best way I could, and that was just saying, 'Hey, I'm bipolar.' Everyone has things going on and we deal with them the best we can. We can't jump from the rooftops shouting, 'I have this, look at me. Victim.' No, we all have issues in life."

Twitter



@RebelWilson
Thanks for all the marriage proposals x



@kirstiealley
So I'm a b---- today.. what's wrong with being a b---- ?? It's not like I've stabbed anyone in their Money-maker.....yet



@Rosie
Justin Bieber is Elvis - amazing last night @ jingle ball - didn't love the endless weenie grabs - but god he is angelic and beautiful



@SteveCarell
I'm thinking of starting a roadside assistance service for the desert. I will call it "Camel Tow"

Royal baby makes three

Kate and Will. With the Internet buzzing about the Duchess of Cambridge's pregnancy, Metro's family columnist weighs in



IT'S ALL RELATIVE
Kathy Buckworth,
kathybuckworth.com

The announcement that royal couple Catherine and William are expecting their first child has many speculating how this baby and his or her famous parents will cope.

It can be hard for a normal, common family to adjust to family life. There are a few differences that spring immediately to mind when one thinks of a royal.

Like most new moms, much of Kate's hair will likely fall out during her first few postpartum months. However, unlike most new moms, she could potentially finance a small country with the money she would make by selling it on eBay.

Kate will have to decide what name goes best with the surname Wales.

Sadly, the name Hash-tag has already been taken. Luckily, AtSign, Double-BackSlash and Meme are all still available, should Kate and Will decide that Victoria, Elizabeth, George and Edward are too stuffy and old school.

Kate will have additional parenting challenges due to the fact that paradoxically her child, by virtue of being third in line for the throne, will technically be the boss of her.



Let the baby bump watch begin. Kate and Will are expecting their first child. ALASTAIR GRANT/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Potty training days will bring new meaning to the

term "sitting on the throne." And while most babies

are congratulated for speaking their first word, the first

royal wave will also have to be rejoiced.

Come birthday time, likely Will Jr. asking for a pony will be a little redundant. But planning the party will be easy for Kate's side of the family, and uncle Harry's sure to be entertaining (and hopefully clothed).

For William, "Bring your child to work day," which doesn't typically happen until the child is 14, will need to be pre-planned now due to the security detail involved.

And there's really no point to Baby Wales taking daddy in for Career Day at school, as no other kid in the class will be able to aspire to have the "next in line for the throne" job.

Instead of sitting in line for hours to sign their child up for swimming lessons, Kate and Will will have to spend hours interviewing the royal swim instructor.

Likewise, the royal soccer coach, royal T-ball trainer and royal lice remover will also be interviewed.

Should their child get lice, they can force everyone around them to cut off their hair. This, history tells us, is a vast improvement over ordering a whole head to be cut off.

Good luck to you, Will and Kate. **KATHY BUCKWORTH IS AN AWARD WINNING WRITER. VISIT KATHYBUCKWORTH.COM OR FOLLOW KATHY ON TWITTER @KATHYBUCKWORTH**

The name game

Think you know what Will and Kate should call the future heir to the throne? Let us know at metronews.ca



Jewel on sparkling moments with son

DOROTHY ROBINSON
Metro World News

On top of her professional obligations — she's a co-host and judge on Platinum Hit and the spokeswoman for Pampers Baby Dry diapers — Jewel is also a mom to her 18-month-old son Kase and a wife to Ty Murray, the professional bull rider.

But as you can tell from the following interview, her life is far from a rodeo.

If you could highlight just one beautiful moment with your son, what would it be?
The morning is my favourite

Special times

"One of my favourite morning moments is getting to read with him."

Jewel on sharing mommy-son moments with her 18-month-old son, Kase.

time with my baby. I thought it was just me and Kase.

I just thought, "Wow, Kase is always in a great mood in the morning."

Then I talked to other moms and realized it's everyone's favourite time with their baby.

It's something kind of

magical — they are just in a good mood and it's just fun to hang out with them.

One of my favourite morning moments is getting to read with him.

Speaking of books, can you tell us a little bit about yours?

I wrote That's What I'd Do for Kase while I was still pregnant.

I had written a children's record for him, too, called The Merry Goes 'Round, full of little things I wanted to teach him.

I try to use imaginative metaphors to show him all the ways I love him.



Jewel. GETTY IMAGES

Let it snow...

The Weather Network calls for snow, which means Mommy has to wrestle you into multiple layers, including an embarrassing reindeer sweater, or go stir crazy while hibernating inside. Follow along with the comedic (mis)adventures of mommyhood online with Reasons Mommy Drinks at metronews.ca/voices



3
THE

Baby's room DIY projects

A new baby is a bundle of joy that also costs a bundle of cash. Nursery decor is one area where new parents can save some money by creating their own design elements. Design bloggers share four easy, drool-worthy projects to give baby's room that special touch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fabric mirror

Materials

- Fabric scraps
- Fabric stiffener
- aluminum foil
- Craft store
- mirror
- Cardboard
- String
- Super glue



Step 1

When you design a space for a little one, chances are you'll end up with leftover fabric. This project is a great way to use up those scraps. Lay the fabric on pieces of aluminum foil. Brush fabric stiffener onto the material and smooth out bubbles or wrinkles. Let dry completely, then peel off the foil.

Step 2

Sketch a lion or other animal onto a piece of paper and cut it out. Trace the shapes onto the back of the stiffened fabric. Cut out fabric shapes. The fabric stiffener will prevent the edges from unraveling.

Step 3

Cut a small scrap of cardboard smaller than the mirror. Punch two holes and tie a string through them. Glue the cardboard onto the back of the mirror. This will allow you to hang the fabric mirror when it's finished.

Step 4

Cut a large circle inside the lion's mane (or the face of your animal). Line up the mirror in the hole and glue it to the back of the fabric so the edges are hidden. Let everything dry completely, then hang.

FROM CARRIE MCBRIDE, APARTMENTTHERAPY.COM

Clean and colourful dresser drawers

Materials

- Foam craft brushes
- Mod Podge matte finish
- Six sheets of patterned,
- heavy-duty wrapping paper (or swatches of colourful wall-paper or fabric)



Step 1

Wipe the insides of the drawers with a moist rag. If they're musty, wipe them with mineral spirits or Murphy's Oil Soap and let them air dry in the sun.

Step 2

After selecting six sheets of wrapping paper (or however many drawers you have), cut the sheets down to the size of the drawers. If all the drawers are the same size, use the first rectangle as a template.

Step 3

Apply a thin, even coat of Mod Podge adhesive to the bottom of the first drawer. Mod Podge is 100 per cent water-based, so it won't stink up baby's clothes.

Step 4

Glue the cut-to-size paper rectangle to the bottom of the drawer by pressing it along the centre and out towards the corners to eliminate bubbles or wrinkling. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for all drawers.

Step 5

Give the drawers four hours to dry, then apply a thin top coat of Mod Podge over the paper to protect against wear and tear. Let everything dry overnight and you're left with fresh, durably lined drawers that provide a little dose of happy every time they're opened.

Pretty as a picture frame mobile

Step 1

Paint the frames to make them colourful. Some may need a light sanding first. Add a coat of polyurethane after the paint is dry.

Step 2

If any of your frames has a support arm on the back to prop it up, pull it off. You want the back of the mini frame to be completely smooth.

Step 3

Put your photos or artwork in the small frames. (You could use abstract art, photos of vintage trucks or pictures of baby's cousins, for instance.)

Step 4

To connect two small frames vertically, run the ribbon behind the artwork but inside the frame back. Cut a piece of decorative paper the same size as each frame back and, with a glue stick, paste it on.

Step 5

Remove the glass and backing from the large frame. Hang the four pairs of small frames from the large frame by twisting four screw eyes into the back of the large frame and then tying a ribbon to each screw eye.

Step 6

Tie a length of fishing line or thin wire to each screw eye, then tie all four pieces together so the mobile hangs evenly. Knot the end for attaching to a ceiling hook.

FROM CARRIE MCBRIDE, APARTMENTTHERAPY.COM



Materials

- Printed papers or fabrics
- Small frames
- One larger frame
- About three yards of ribbon, divided into four
- uneven sections
- Decorative paper
- Photos or art reduced to fit small frames
- Four screw eyes
- Fishing line or thin wire
- Glue stick
- Paint
- Polyurethane

SANTA IN THE CITY

Santa Claus is coming to Centre Court!

Join Citi Plaza for the **FREE** Storytime with Santa followed by the **FREE** screening of the movie at Rainbow Cinemas.

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Movie begins at 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Dec. 15 - All I Want for Christmas

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Cinnamon-Honey Oat Drops spice up Santa's cookie choices



This recipe makes 36 cookies. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Looking for classic, comforting flavours in a chewy, soft cookie? This is it. The recipe takes a basic oat drop-style cookie and adds the comforting, holiday flavours of cinnamon and honey. These cookies beg to go with tea, hot cocoa or even milk left for Santa on Christmas Eve.

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper.

2. In bowl, use electric mixer to beat butter, brown sugar, honey and vanilla. With mixer running, add eggs, one at a time, scraping the bowl in between additions.

3. Stir in flour, baking soda, salt and 1 teaspoon of the cinnamon. Stir in the oats.

4. Scoop by tablespoonful onto the prepared baking sheets, leaving 2 inches between each cookie. Using slightly moistened hand, flatten cookies until 1/2 inch thick.

5. In bowl, stir granulated sugar and remaining 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon. Sprinkle lightly

over the top of each cookie.

6. Bake 10 minutes, or until no longer glossy and just starting to turn golden brown at the edges. Let cool on pan 10 min-

utes, then transfer to a rack to cool. Store in airtight container at room temperature for up to a week.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Healthy eating

Choose it and lose it



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Longing for summer? Wendy's treats are creamy, delicious and will instantly transport you to warmer times. But be warned, they contain an overload of calories and sugar.

Wendy's Caramel Frosty Shake (Large)

1,000 calories / 154 g sugar
This beverage contains three quarters of a woman's daily calories and four times the daily sugar amount.



Equivalent

One large Wendy's caramel Frosty Shake is equivalent in sugar to 12 Boston cream donuts from Tim Hortons. It's close to consuming 40 teaspoons of sugar. The caramel sauce has the excess calories, fat and sugar — not to mention the whipped cream.



Wendy's Vanilla Frosty (Large)

570 calories/ 81 g sugar
Having half the calories makes a better choice, but only once in a while. This is still too many beverage calories to consume.



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Ingredients

- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 4 eggs
- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 1/2 tsp cinnamon, divided
- 2 1/2 cups old fashioned oats
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar

Cash in on these hot career choices: Advice that you can take to the bank

Six for success. The working world is rough right now, but there are fields that can fill your wallet

YLVA
VAN BUUREN
careerbear.com

Looking to make a lot of money fast? There are some jobs where the sky is the limit for income, says financial expert Lesley Scorgie.

Scorgie is the author of two books: *Rich by Thirty: A Young Adult's Guide to Financial Success*, and *Rich by Forty: A Young Couple's Guide to Building Net Worth*. Check out her list of moola-making jobs:

Commercial sales rep

A commercial sales representative is someone who sells a product or service for a company.

There are commercial sales reps in many different industries and the most lucrative include health care (pharmaceuticals), real estate and the financial industry (bro-



Research budding industry and become a part of it. Check! iStock

This job makes cents

Finance jobs

"Finance jobs that are paid by commission based on size of deals, research, customer relations, etc., can make you a lot of money fast," says Scorgie.

Caveat: Knowing your product is important.

ers and bankers). "Really, the more you sell, the more you make." In terms of training, many companies will pay for sales training.

Caveat: You've got to have a sales personality, or it will be a flop.

IT services

IT services is a discipline for managing information technology systems.

"Folks are redesigning systems to control financial activities. Governance and management of those systems

is turning into lucrative business."

Caveat: These positions are about rebuilding ineffective systems.

Upstart entrepreneur

High risk entrepreneurial ideas that capture trends in some way can be quite lucrative, quite quickly, says Scorgie. "We see lots of examples in the gaming and APP development world right now."

Caveat: The key is captivating the hearts of people so the

product becomes a smash hit.

Oil and gas industry job

This is a broad category with a technical side (engineering, geophysics, geology, etc.) and a business development side (where you would find new opportunities for the sector. Water and sustainability initiatives are popular right now). "These positions are generally higher incomes to start, and you progress quickly."

Caveat: People make money when times are good, so it's

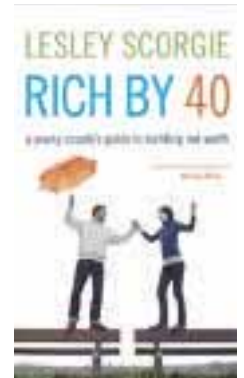
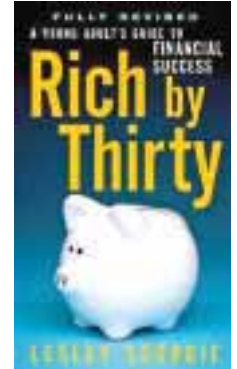
important to make sure there are benefit plans that include long-term incentives.

Agent

An agent is someone who is authorized to represent another individual (an entertainer or baseball player, for example) who usually makes a lot of money themselves.

The job entails negotiating contracts and terms, and having contacts in the industry.

Caveat: Financial success is usually tied into the sales side of things.



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The In-Credibility Factor

Name: Dr. Jonathan DellaVedova
City: Hamilton, ON
Age: 28
Occupation: Doctor specializing in pediatric medicine



THE IN-CREDIBILITY FACTOR
Teresa Kruze
life@metronews.ca

Dr. DellaVedova (or Dr. DVD as he's referred to by his young patients) always thought he'd be a teacher. On a whim he applied to medical school and has not looked back since. He is currently in his fourth and final year of residency in general pediatrics at McMaster Children's Hospital in Hamilton. In the summer of 2013, he will return to his home town of Sault St. Marie, where he has accepted a job as a community pediatrician.

I knew I was on my way when ... I attended my first delivery of a baby. I was a first year medical student and I was working with an obstetrician that was a total grouch. He let me catch the baby even though I had no clue what I was doing.



Dr. DellaVedova. PROVIDED

When that baby cried, I was so over the moon and I think I was more excited than the actual parents. I was so grateful to the doctor and the parents for letting me be a part of that moment. That's the feeling I try to remember when I get woken up a dozen times a night to attend deliveries and bring a new life into the world.

Do it for yourself, but do it for them, too
There's an enormous amount of commitment and effort that goes into

medical training, but you can't get to the first day of medical school or the last day of residency alone. Your family raised you, your teachers taught you, your friends and your partner supported you on the days you were so overwhelmed and sleep deprived that you wanted to quit. The people in your life invest in you because they want to see you succeed, so make it happen.

Pay it forward

The more skills and qualifications you get, the more opportunities will pile up and the more you will find yourself saying, 'No'. But never turn down an audience with aspiring young people or an opportunity to teach. Some day they may be your doctor, nurse, mechanic or food safety inspector.

Get a grip

Working with sick children everyday has an incredible way of putting your problems into perspective and reminding you what is important in life. Yes, you will have to work hard, but enjoy every single moment, take nothing for granted and share the love.

Pour yourself into this backyard biz

Vineyard venture.

Do you have what it takes to uncork a bold new career?

Growing grapes can be a rewarding pursuit. They're appealing to the eye, pleasing to the palate, a profitable sideline and a reason for parties and neighbourhood togetherness. It's no wonder so many vineyards are cropping up in people's yards.

"The idea of having a landscape that produces something is one of the attractive issues," said Tom Powers, a winemaker who has designed and installed more than 100 small vineyards, mainly around the Alhambra Valley of Contra Costa County, Calif., near where he lives.

"The other thing is the lifestyle of being in wine country is attractive to people and they want to be a part of it."

Property owners often install vineyards when renovating unsightly or underutilized land, said Powers, author of *The*

Wines and dimes

"It's less expensive to do grapes than traditional landscaping like shrubs and flowers from an investment viewpoint."

Tom Powers
Winemaker

Organic Backyard Vineyard.

"It's less expensive to do grapes than traditional landscaping like shrubs and flowers from an investment viewpoint," he said. "The trade-out is that you have to put in more maintenance time."

Make no mistake: Vineyards require attention. Rootstocks must be chosen, the soil prepared, trellises and fences built, vines pruned, canopy leaves thinned, nets strung to discourage predators, grape clusters harvested and processed. But the work can be worth it economically. Grape growers from New York to California profit by selling their crops to hobbyists

or to wineries that don't have enough tonnage to meet production demands. Other growers, including those who grow table grapes, enjoy exceptional flavours from fruit seldom found in markets.

The small acreage required for a vineyard can generate surprisingly high earnings. "Up to \$3,000 to \$7,000 per acre in gross returns," according to the Upper Shore Regional Council in Chestertown, Md.

Grapes also are a smart environmental choice given their modest water and fertilizer requirements, plus low soil runoff, the council said. It doesn't take many vines to start a rewarding grape-growing venture. "A 100-foot row of vines can yield up to 175 bottles of wine," Powers said. "With a one-acre vineyard, you could make more than 5,000 bottles."

A mild climate is not required for growing grapes. Many varieties can be grown anywhere there is an ample amount of sun and an abundance of nutrient-rich, well-drained soil.

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Grieving Cowboys gut out close win

NFL. Dallas plays a day after learning one teammate was killed and another arrested following a car crash

Numb. Grieving. Distracted. The Cowboys were all those things on Sunday, dealing with the death of one teammate and the tribulations of another.

Winners, too, though they hardly felt like it.

Dan Bailey kicked a 40-yard field goal as time ran out, sending the Cowboys to a 20-19 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals that ended a tough afternoon with a little bit of relief and their playoff chances enhanced.

Didn't last long, though. There will be a lot more emotional days ahead in Dallas.

"It's a hard, hard situation we're in," quarterback Tony Romo said. "There's no playbook for this sort of thing in life."

The Cowboys overcame a nine-point deficit in the closing minutes behind Romo, who held his hand over his heart during a moment of silence to honour teammate Jerry Brown before the kickoff. The line-backer died in an auto accident early Saturday.

Defensive lineman Josh Brent, who was driving, was still jailed in Texas on Sunday, charged with intoxication manslaughter.

The Cowboys (7-6) learned about Brown's death on their



Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo leaves the field after the Cowboys defeated the Cincinnati Bengals 20-19 on Sunday in Cincinnati. MICHAEL KEATING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I don't remember crying this much other than maybe the day I was born."

Dallas Cowboys defensive lineman Marcus Spears on the emotional toll of playing after learning of the death of one teammate and arrest of another following an auto accident.

flight to Cincinnati on Saturday. Coach Jason Garrett told his team that the best way to honour him was to play well in a game with playoff implications for both teams.

One of the visitors' metal lockers at Paul Brown Stadium had a strip of white athletic

tape with "53 JERRY BROWN" attached to the top, a wooden stool inside sitting upside-down. Brown's No. 53 jersey was on the sideline during the game — defensive tackle Jason Hatcher held it up after Bailey's kick decided it.

It wasn't much of a celebration by an emotionally spent team.

Players couldn't keep the tragedy out of their thoughts during the game, finding their minds wandering on the bench.

Owner Jerry Jones described his team as grieving when it took the field. It was the second consecutive week that an NFL team was playing a day after losing a teammate. Kansas City beat Carolina 27-21 one day after linebacker Jovan Belcher shot his girlfriend and then himself at the Chiefs' practice complex.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Phillies pick up all-star Young

The Philadelphia Phillies have acquired seven-time all-star infielder Michael Young from the Texas Rangers for two relief pitchers.

The deal was announced Sunday, a day after Young agreed to waive his no-trade clause. The Phillies are sending right-hander Josh Lindblom and minor league righty Lisalberto Bonilla to the Rangers to get Young, who fills a void at third base. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lockout

Hockey talks may resume this week

NHL labour talks could be back on as early as this week after negotiations fell apart just a few days ago.

Deputy commissioner Bill Daly tells The Associated Press he has been in contact with the players' association, and the sides are working on returning to the bargaining table.

Daly says in an email on Sunday: "Trying to set up something for this week, but nothing finalized yet."

Talks broke down Thursday night after three straight days of talks at a New York hotel. Moments after players' association executive director Donald Fehr said he believed the sides were closing in on a deal to end the lockout, he was back at the podium to announce the NHL rejected the union's latest offer.

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Clippers' backups a cut above Raps in 4th quarter

The Los Angeles Clippers were lacking energy through three quarters. Their backups came in and changed the game again.

Jamal Crawford led a fourth-quarter rally by the reserves with 16 points and the Clippers defeated Toronto 102-83 on Sunday to win their sixth in a row while handing the Raptors their 10th consecutive road loss.

The backups gave Los Angeles its first double-digit lead of the game after Toronto kept it close through the first three periods before dropping its fourth straight and 10th in its last 11. The Raptors have just four wins this season.

Los Angeles' reserves dominated the final period for the third straight game, turning

Sunday's game

102

Clippers

83

Raptors

Griffin and Paul into cheerleaders.

"As long as I've been in the league, through 20 games I've never played this least amount of minutes," Paul said. "I should have no arguments about being tired. I'm also enjoying cheering on guys out there playing. We like to see each other succeed."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Los Angeles Clippers' Blake Griffin dribbles Sunday in Los Angeles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Stay focused on your long-term ambitions this week. Ignore all those interesting but unproductive activities that eat into your time and energy but bring no return. What is your number one goal? Go straight for it.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

An upheaval or setback that took place last week may have knocked you out of your stride a bit but you will soon recover. Taurus is a wonderfully resilient sign and you will easily outlast those who oppose you.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

There is a heightened sense of urgency about your activities now and that's good because a lot will happen over the next few days and you will have to move fast to keep up with events. Better still, get ahead of them.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

The best way to further your aims is to help partners and colleagues further their own. The more you help other people now the more they will help you later in the week. You can't do it all on your own.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You need to get serious about certain issues over the next few days. You have been a bit too easygoing of late and some people are beginning to think you cannot be trusted. Go out of your way to prove them wrong.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Make sure you get plenty of rest today because you are going to be very busy come Wednesday and Thursday. You don't have to start the week at a run: start slowly and build up to a pace you feel comfortable with.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

The planets want you to go out and have fun. The planets want to see you enjoy yourself. At this time of year the Sun in the daring sign of Sagittarius gives you the perfect excuse — not that you really need one.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Some kind of breakthrough is on the cards for the next few days, most likely of a financial nature. You may have to give up one thing to gain another but on balance you will come out on top in the deal.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You will get the chance to do something different today, something out of the ordinary and maybe even a bit outrageous. You enjoy seeing how far you can push your luck, so push away.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Make a list of all the things you would like to change in your life, because you will soon get the opportunity to make them happen. Even if you like things pretty much as they are some things can still be better.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

What you most need to realize today is that if you think lucky you are more likely to be lucky. That's not new age mumbo-jumbo: like attracts like and a positive attitude really does make good things happen.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

You may not understand why a friend or family member is behaving the way they are but if you are wise you will let them get on with it. The planets suggest it's no big deal — they're just being a bit "anti". Hopefully, those limitations will have taught you the importance of timing. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword

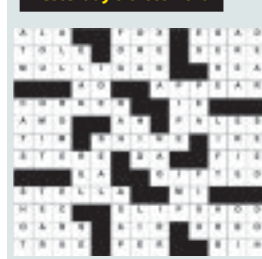
Across

1. Good Morning America's — Champion
4. Comic Margaret —
7. The — Fi Channel
10. Vocal
12. Sleep stage (abbr.)
13. Pinto or lima
14. Actress Bonet of The Cosby Show
15. Boxer called "The Greatest"
16. Hard knocks
17. Pretenses
20. — Elsewhere
21. Former talk show host (init.)
22. South Pacific nation
25. Frasier's dog
29. Three, in Rome
30. Egg cells
31. Path
34. Fictional rabbit
36. Compass pt.
37. Dorothy's aunt
38. Reception, e.g.
45. Great review
46. Soak flax
47. Easy gait
49. Enable, as a felon
50. Family card game
51. Dry
52. Heavy weight
53. Magnum, P.I. actor Selleck
54. Medical suffix

Down

1. Sun God
2. Operatic solo
3. Wad
4. Stuff
5. Second Beatles film
6. Leave off
7. Actor Penn
8. Hats
9. — and outs
11. Noose
13. Group of chicks
18. Actress Hagen
19. Fury
22. Take a rest
23. The Fresh Prince of Bel —
24. Soccer great Hamm
26. Speck
27. — Got a Secret

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers
metronews.ca/
answers.



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

8	7	4	9	5	1	2	6	3
3	1	9	8	2	6	5	7	4
2	5	6	3	4	7	1	8	9
5	3	2	1	7	8	9	4	6
7	4	8	6	9	5	3	1	2
9	6	1	4	3	2	8	5	7
1	9	3	5	6	4	7	2	8
4	8	7	2	1	9	6	3	5
6	2	5	7	8	3	4	9	1

4		9				5		3
	5	2	3		1	6	8	
3								4
			8		5			
	7			2			5	
			4		9			
1								8
	2	5	1		7	3	4	
6		7				2		5

BY BETTY MARTIN

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Tuesday

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BRUCE POWER NUCLEAR UP, COAL DOWN.

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